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# Nixon Enters the Hospital For Treatment of Phlebitis

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LONG BEACH, Calif., Sept. 23—A physically fatigued Richard M. Nixon was admitted to Memorial Hospital Medical Center today, 45 days after his resignation as President, for extensive tests and treatment of a flare-up of a chronic phlebitis condition in his left leg.

Mr. Nixon arrived by automobile at about 4:40 P.M., New York time, from his estate in San Clemente, about 50 miles south, for a projected one-week stay. He was accompanied by a smiling Mrs. Nixon and their younger daughter, Julie Nixon Eisenhower.

Mr. Nixon walked several yards from the car into a truck-loading dock in the basement of the hospital. Witnesses said he walked stiffly but without a limp.

When a reporter, Mary Neiffwender of The Long Beach Independent Press Telegraph, asked Mr. Nixon how he felt, he replied, "Good morning, good afternoon."

He was said to have bowed slightly before continuing to walk unsupported, with Mrs. Nixon and Mrs. Eisenhower flanking him to a service elevator that took him to his room on the hospital's sixth floor.

Two police cars and a hover-

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ing helicopter were in front of the main entrance in an apparent move to keep newsmen from a close view of Mr. Nixon. Secret Service agents also blocked off access.

A plainclothes Security man was accused by Dick Smith, a television cameraman for the National Broadcasting Company, of breaking a lens as he tried to film Mr. Nixon.

Ronald L. Ziegler, the former White House press secretary and still an aide to Mr. Nixon, was asked whether Mr. Nixon would be able to respond to court subpoenas in Watergate-related cases.

"I don't think this is the occasion to discuss impending court action," Mr. Ziegler responded. "The fact that the President is here in the hospital has no bearing on that particular question."

Mr. Nixon was described by his physician, Dr. John C. Lungren, as physically fatigued.

Mr. Ziegler said at a news conference that Dr. Lungren had insisted for the last week that Mr. Nixon go to the hospital.

Dr. Lungren said at the conference that there were two purposes for Mr. Nixon's hospitalization.

The first, he said, was to begin treatment of the phlebitis with blood-thinning anticoagulant drugs.

The second, he said, was "to conduct exhaustive studies in an attempt to identify the primary causative agent or agents of this original nontraumatic phlebitis."

Phlebitis can be caused by a number of conditions, one of which is a hidden cancer.

Dr. Lungren said he would issue daily written bulletins that would adhere strictly to the confidentiality of the patient-doctor relationship.

"Accordingly," he said, "such items as the progress of therapy, treatment, medication usage, new developments, all will be reported first to the patient, then to his wife and the immediate family. Then with the patient's permission, a public statement will be made."

Mr. Ziegler described Mr. Nixon as "under strain and stress" in the 45-day post-resignation period, during which Mr. Nixon accepted a pardon from President Ford and court subpoenas.

"It's not easy to go through what he had to go through," Mr. Zielger said. He added, "His mind is very acute."

Mr. Nixon suffered his first attack of phlebitis 10 years ago while on a trip abroad. It flared up again this year during his trip to the Middle East and lingered through his visit to the Soviet Union last June. The attacks left Mr. Nixon with a post-phlebitic, or swollen but nonpainful, leg.

Dr. Lungren said that Mr. Nixon had experienced "three episodes of reactivation" since the Middle East trip.

Though worrisome during his foreign trips, Mr. Nixon's phlebitis apparently did not become a major problem until after his resignation Aug. 9.

There have since been conflicting reports about his physical condition and state of mind.

Family members disclosed that a flare-up of the phlebitis had dampened Mr. Nixon's spirits.

United Press International

**Richard M. Nixon, accompanied by his daughter Julie Eisenhower, arriving yesterday afternoon at Long Beach (Calif.) Memorial Hospital.**

Mr. Niegler, asked about reports that Mr. Nixon was afraid he might die if he entered a hospital, said:

"That particular quote occurred during a period where the President's spirits were low and he wanted to be active. That related more to his frame of mind at that time. He wanted to be active and did not want a long hospitalization."

Dr. Tkach declined to deny a report that he had not examined Mr. Nixon's leg as he had stated but had merely taken Dr. Lungren's word about Mr. Nixon's state. Dr. Tkach did not return to California as planned for a follow-up examination.

the Air Force, chief White House physician in the Nixon Administration, said after a visit to San Clemente 10 days ago that Mr. Nixon was "ravaged" and that the former President feared hospitalization because he would not come out alive.

Further, Dr. Tkach said, it would take a miracle to pull Mr. Nixon through.

### LUNGREN'S STATEMENT

*Following is a transcript of Dr. Lungren's statement, as recorded by The New York Times:*

ment with regard to President Nixon's hospitalization. At the outset, this session or any other press release that will follow will be conducted strictly within the code of the doctor-patient relationship.

Accordingly, such items as progress of treatment, medication usage, new developments all will be reported first to the patient, then to his wife and his immediate family and then, with the patient's permission, a public statement may be made.

I have just examined Mr. Nixon briefly again. Understandably, he exhibits evidence of physical fatigue.

Mr. Nixon's hospital admission has a twofold purpose.

Number one, to treat a chronic phlebitis in acute phase, which first developed on his trip to the Middle East and which has already had three episodes of reactivation. The treatment will consist primarily of the introduction of prophylactic use of anticoagulent drugs.

Second, to conduct exhaustive studies in an attempt to idtntify the primary causitive agent or agents of this original nontraumatic phle-